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1962/10/18

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

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Info

FROM: Brussels

Control: 14446

Rec'd: October 18, 1962
4:36 p.m.

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 623, October 18, 9 p.m.

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PRIORITY

ACTION DEPARTMENT 623, INFORMATION PARIS 241.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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IOP PARIS FOR USRO

REVIEWED by RB Henry Jr DATE 1/29/68

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FOIA 20 or PA Exemptions See

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to authority to:

1) "Soviet Overflights"

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Spaak informed me today he would support our position that NATO members deny Soviet requests to overfly or make stops in NATO territory on flights to Cuba. This presented no real problem for Belgium since Soviet rights to stop at Brussels or overfly Belgium related only to flights destined for Paris. However, if Soviets started using Czech airline, there would be legal obstacles which would make it most difficult for Belgium to deny overflight requests because Czech National Airlines is member of ICAO. I expressed appreciation for his support of our position in NATO re Soviet overflights and said I would inform Department about Czech problem.

2) "Petroleum Derivatives for Cuba"

I thanked Spaak for his very real personal efforts to persuade Belgian companies to refuse to cooperate in shipment of bright solvent to Cuba. He said he did not know whether Belgian companies involved would heed strong unofficial advice he had given

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FOIA Exemptions _____

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TS authority to:

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-2- 623, October 18, 9 p.m., from: Brussels

them, but he was sympathetic to our problem and wanted to do all he could to help.

I expressed particular interest in steps that might be taken to stop future shipments to Cuba via Antwerp. Spaak said, in his judgment, best course was to add Cuba to list of COCOM countries. I asked whether Belgian would support our efforts to do so. He replied he personally favored supporting us in this, but would have to obtain Cabinet approval from other interested Ministries before he could give us assurances in this regard.

Comment: If we plan further action to include Cuba on list of Communist countries to which COCOM restrictions apply, it would be helpful for us to be kept currently informed so that I can try to mobilize Spaak's support in our behalf.

MACARTHUR

DMJ

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